Amendment to Standing Order.

Mr. K. T. Mathew—I beg to move that the amendment to S. O. 9 be taken up and passed.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—I beg to second it.

Motion put and carried.

Cochin Civil Marriage Bill.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Cochin Civil Marriage Bill and move that it may be taken up for consideration.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I beg to second it.

Motion put and carried.

The followeng sections, etc., were put and carried.

Whereas it is expedient to provide a form of marriage for persons of diverse castes and creeds and to legalise certain marriages the validity of which is doubtful it is hereby enacted as follows:—

I. This Regulation shall be known as the Civil Marriage Regulation of Cochin of 110 .

II. The Regulation extends to the whole of Cochin.

III. Marriages may be celebrated under this Regulation between persons irrespective of their castes or creeds under the following conditions:—

(1) neither party must, at the time of marriage, have a husband or wife living;

(2) the man must have completed the age of 18 and the woman the age of 16;

(3) each party must, if he or she has not completed the age of 21, have obtained the consent of his or her parent or guardian;

(4) the parties must not be related to each other in any degree of consanguinity or affinity which would, according to any law to which either of them is subject, render a maariage between them illegal.

1st Proviso.—No such law or custom other than one relating to consanguinity or affinity, shall prevent them from marrying.

2nd Proviso.—No law or custom as to consanguinity shall prevent them from marrying, unless a relationship can be traced between the parties through some common ancestor, who stands to each of them in a nearer relationship than that of great-great-grand-father or great-great grandmother, or unless one of the parties is the lineal ancestor, or the brother or sister of some lineal ancestor of the other.

IV. The Government may appoint one or more Registrars under this Regulation to any portion of the State. The officer so appointed shall be called Registrar of Marriages under Re-

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